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Indiana State Library

Wednesday Word | May 31, 2023

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West Lafayette Public Library's Nick Schenkel retires after more than 40 years of service



Photo from Facebook.

Today, West Lafayette Public Library director Nick Schenkel will retire after nearly 42 years of serving the West Lafayette community. Schenkel, who was honored with a certificate at a recent West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission

Upcoming workshops and important dates

[What's Up Wednesday - Digital Resources](#)

When: June 14, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Webinar

[Certification and LEUs: Getting and Staying Certified](#)

When: June 20, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Webinar

[What's Up Wednesday - Bendable and St. Joe County Public Library](#)

When: June 28, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Webinar

[Professional Development Roundtable](#)

When: July 6, 2-3 p.m.
Where: Webinar

[What's Up Wednesday - Implementing Digital Tools](#)

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Indiana library jobs



This week's new Indiana library jobs

[Children's Services Manager](#)

Allen County Public Library

[Assistant Manager – Circulation Department](#)

Crawfordsville District Public Library

[Teen/Adult Collection Development and Reference Librarian](#)

Franklin County Public Library District

[Teen/Adult Programming Librarian](#)

Franklin County Public Library District

[Youth Service Library Assistant](#)

Hancock County Public Library

[Teen and Adult Services Librarian I \(part-time\)](#)

Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library

[Teen and Adult Services Librarian II](#)

Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library

[Youth Services Librarian II](#)

Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library

[Assistant Reference Librarian \(part-time\)](#)

meeting, joined the West Lafayette Public Library in September of 1981.

After attending Edgecliff College in Ohio in the 1970s, Schenkel went on to earn a library degree at the University of Kentucky. Schenkel began his library career at the Fayette County Public Library before becoming director of the West Lafayette Public Library, where he remained for more than 40 years.

“Nick has provided great leadership to his local community and the state during his long career, and his contributions are greatly appreciated. His service to the Indiana Library Federation and Indiana State Library committees and boards provided knowledge, vision and humor. I thank him for being a great colleague and wish him the best in retirement,” said Indiana State Librarian Jacob Speer.

The Indiana State Library would like to thank Schenkel for his four decades of service to the Indiana library community. Most recently, he served as chair of the statewide Resource Sharing Committee. The State Library wishes him well in his retirement.

InfoExpress bag reminder



The Indiana State Library would like to remind InfoExpress users to return any InfoExpress bags that are not currently being used. Extra bags can be put into an InfoExpress bag and sent back to the State Library.

Users can create a parcel label for them and ship them to the library or they can simply tape a note in the window of the bag that says “EXTRA

When: July 12, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[Webmaster Roundtable](#)

When: July 25, 2-4 p.m.

Where: Webinar and at the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library

[What's Up Wednesday - Edelweiss and Libraries](#)

When: July 26, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[What's Up Wednesday - Games and Programming](#)

When: Aug. 9, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries \(SEAL\) Workshop](#)

When: Aug. 15, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Where: Indiana State Library

[Indiana Library Leadership Academy](#)

When: Aug. 17, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Indiana State Library

[Indiana Library Leadership Academy](#)

When: Aug. 18, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Where: Indiana State Library

[Every Child Ready to Read and School Readiness in Storytime](#)

When: Aug. 25, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Where: Jennings County Public Library

[Dyslexia and the Public Library](#)

When: Aug. 29, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Where: Webinar

[What's Up Wednesday - INSPIRE Changes](#)

When: Aug. 30, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[Every Child Ready to Read and School Readiness in Storytime](#)

When: Aug. 31, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Where: Peru Public Library

Jeffersonville Township Public Library

Those who would like their Indiana library job posting to be listed in the Wednesday Word must submit the position and its description to the Indiana State Library. Click [here](#) for submission guidelines and to submit.

In the news



[Library board to have closed session to consider strategy over donation of North Christian Church building](#)
Bartholomew County Public Library

[Libraries announce plans for summer reading clubs](#)
Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library and Hancock County Public Library

[Arab Hoosiers' hidden history uncovered in documentary screened at HEPL Fishers](#)
Hamilton East Public Library

[Indianapolis Public Library installing accessible workstations](#)
Indianapolis Public Library

[Jackson County Public Library hosts June book discussions](#)
Jackson County Public Library

[Jasper-Dubois County Public Library kicks-off summer reading program](#)
Jasper-Dubois County Public Library

[All Together Now Summer Reading Club begins](#)

BAGS" and the courier will return them to the library.

Please contact the [InfoExpress coordinator](#) with any questions.

Johnson County Public Library dedicates sculpture celebrating Johnson County women



Artist Kimberly McNeelan (right) and library director Lisa Lintner (left) pose with the unveiled sculpture.

A new sculpture celebrating the women of Johnson County was unveiled at a ceremony at the Clark Pleasant Branch of the Johnson County Public Library on Sunday, May 21.

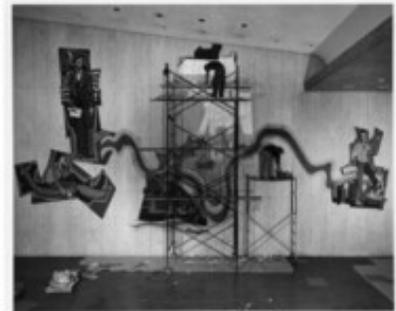
The public art installation, made possible by generous donations from community members and a grant from the [Johnson County Community Foundation](#), is titled "The Light Shines Through." Created by artist Kimberly McNeelan - who grew up in Whiteland - the statue is made of bronze, western red cedar, stainless steel, concrete, steel, plywood and paint and depicts a woman walking on a large book, while holding another book in her hand.

In an interview with the Daily Journal, McNeelan said, "The idea of the sculpture is to honor women, of



Welcome to Digital Collection Highlights. Every other week, librarians at the Indiana State Library share images from the library's ever-growing digital collections. Visit the [Digital Collections](#) page to view the latest additions.

Abraham Lincoln mural installation photographs



In the Indiana Government Center North building in downtown Indianapolis, state employees pass a sizable, dynamic mural every day on their way to the cafeteria. Titled "Here I Grew Up," the public art piece, designed by Indianapolis native Garo Z. Antreasian, depicts five stages of Abraham Lincoln's life in Indiana between the ages of 7 and 21.

The "Here I Grew Up" photograph collection (SP155), now available online, shows the installation of the mural in January of 1963 in the Indiana State Office Building. Three people - Ralph Peck, a Herron School of Art graduate; his assistant Mrs. Charles Pitts; and another unknown individual - [are shown](#)

Jeffersonville Township Public Library

[Community remembers longtime Jeffersonville library employee Mike Harvey](#)

Jeffersonville Township Public Library

[Milford Public Library summer reading program begins June 5](#)
Milford Public Library

[Photos: Monroe County Public Library new Southwest Branch](#)
Monroe County Public Library

[RCCF awards \\$13K in grants to Osgood organizations](#)
Osgood Public Library

[Sheridan Library gearing up for summer reading program](#)
Sheridan Public Library

[Westfield Washington Public Library ready to launch summer reading program](#)
Westfield Washington Public Library

Is your library making news?

[Email](#) news links for inclusion in the Wednesday Word's "In the news" section.

To be featured in the Wednesday Word, please [email](#) a press release and a photo.



course, specifically to honor women who encouraged literacy in Johnson County. With the sculpture itself, I didn't want to honor just one specific woman. We felt there are a lot of people that deserved to be honored, so I'm honoring six different women, as well as a general everyday woman."

Those women include McNeelan's grandmother; 4-H leaders Missy Suttles and Lois Fitzpatrick; photo journalist Katie Basbagill; Paige Banos, who serves on the Johnson County Library Board; and Erin Davis, who created the Love More-Youth Empowerment Fund.

The plaque inscription reads: "'The Light Shines Through' honors ALL women who have encouraged literacy in Johnson County and beyond. She does not represent just one woman with her casual and classic style. She embodies timeless characteristics with which everyday women can identify. The sculpture's details tell the stories of several specific extraordinary women from Johnson County. The female is emerging from a book recognizing women's stories of the past, present and those yet to come."

The Clark Pleasant Branch of the Johnson County Public Library is located at 350 Clearwater Blvd. in Whiteland.

PLA Digital Literacy Workshop Incentive applications due this Friday



[piecing the mural together](#). Over 300,000 hand-cut glass tesserae tiles comprise the mosaic, which spans 70 feet by 25 feet of the travertine marble wall. In the 1980s, the building was renovated and renamed Indiana Government Center North, while a new South Building was constructed across what is now Robert D. Orr Plaza.

For more information concerning Hoosier artwork and artists at the State Library, check out the [Arts and Entertainment](#) collection in the Indiana State Library Digital Collections.

Walkerton-Lincoln Township Public Library receives \$10,000 grant



The Walkerton-Lincoln Township Public Library has been selected as one of 240 libraries to participate in [Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities](#), an American Library Association initiative that provides community engagement and accessibility resources to small and rural libraries to help them better serve people with disabilities.

The competitive award comes with a \$10,000 grant that will help the library with accessibility for all for the Walkerton Unity Garden.

"We are so thankful for this amazing opportunity from ALA," said library director Jennifer Cygert. "This grant will allow our library to get to know our residents with disabilities better. It will help us improve our services to ensure this population



State Library blog



Follow the [Indiana State Library's blog](#) for weekly posts covering all aspects of the State Library.

Indiana library employees who would like to contribute a guest blog, please send an [email](#) with an idea.

Miss an issue of the Wednesday Word?

Back issues of the Wednesday Word are available [here](#).

Free training for librarians and library employees on LinkedIn Learning



Text and Learn for Kindergarten program information



The Public Library Association, in collaboration with AT&T, has developed eight new DigitalLearn training materials to teach in-demand basic computer skills. AT&T is supporting incentive opportunities to enable libraries to successfully share these new DigitalLearn resources with their communities. PLA developed DigitalLearn to offer free tutorials and workshop materials for libraries to teach basic digital skills.

This is the second expanded incentive opportunity for public libraries in 2023, which will again focus on the eight core basic skilling subjects. All public libraries in the United States and Washington, D.C. are eligible to apply to receive a \$6,000 Digital Literacy Workshop Incentive.

The funded award must be used to conduct workshops to reach a minimum of 36 learners or attendees using one or more of the following DigitalLearn training materials: [Internet Basics](#), [Video Conferencing Basics](#), [Cybersecurity Basics](#), [Email Basics](#), [Computer Basics \(Windows 10\)](#), [Computer Basics \(macOS 11\)](#), [Mobile Device Basics \(Android or Mobile Device Basics \(iOS\)\)](#). Additionally, funds can be used for such things as hiring trainers, printing out materials, purchasing project supplies, renting training space and more.

Click [here](#) to read more about the incentive - including additional requirements - and to apply. The application period ends on Friday, June 2 at 11:59 p.m. Central Time.

feels welcome and comfortable in our space.”

As part of the grant, Walkerton-Lincoln Township Public Library staff will take an online course in how to lead conversations, a skill vital to library work today. Staff will then host a conversation with residents about what needs to be done to provide accessibility to the Unity Garden and the Walkerton-Lincoln Township Public Library and use the grant funds to further that accessibility.

The initial thought for this grant is to provide a leveling out of the ground and sidewalks around all of the Unity Garden beds. This will allow the free healthy foods that are being grown in the garden and shared with the entire community to be accessible to everyone.

Those interested in getting involved or taking part in the conversation, should contact Jennifer Cygert at 574-279-0177.

Since 2014, ALA's Libraries Transforming Communities initiative has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities. Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

Read the full press release [here](#).

Indiana State Library, 315 W. Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. www.in.gov/library/

The Wednesday Word is a free publication of the Indiana State Library. Past issues are archived at the [State Library's Newsroom](#).

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